

# House Resolution 24 - Introduced

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H.R. \_\_\_\_\_ S.R. \_\_\_\_\_

1 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_  
1 2 BY FORD  
1 3 A Resolution requesting the formation of an interim  
1 4 study committee by the Legislative Council to make  
1 5 recommendations relating to the development and  
1 6 implementation of a statewide wireless broadband  
1 7 network.  
1 8 WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that access to  
1 9 computers and the internet, and possession of the  
1 10 ability to effectively utilize these technologies, is  
1 11 becoming increasingly important for full participation  
1 12 in this country's economic, political, and social  
1 13 life; and  
1 14 WHEREAS, affordable, high-speed internet access is  
1 15 critical to attracting, growing, and retaining  
1 16 businesses in the highly competitive global  
1 17 marketplace; and  
1 18 WHEREAS, in the digital age, universal connectivity  
1 19 at an affordable price is a necessity for business  
1 20 transactions, education and training, health care, and  
1 21 government services; and  
1 22 WHEREAS, broadband service is proving valuable to  
1 23 the economic transitioning and growth of distressed  
1 24 urban and rural communities; and  
1 25 WHEREAS, while broadband access is generally  
1 26 increasing in availability, the deployment of such  
1 27 technology is lagging in rural areas of this state;  
1 28 and  
1 29 WHEREAS, access to computers and broadband access  
1 30 at home and at school enhances the learning  
2 1 environment for school-age children; and  
2 2 WHEREAS, voice, video, and data technologies are  
2 3 converging so that voice-grade telephone service can  
2 4 be delivered over the same facilities as broadband  
2 5 services; NOW THEREFORE,  
2 6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
2 7 That the Legislative Council shall establish an  
2 8 interim study committee to make recommendations  
2 9 relating to the development and implementation of a  
2 10 statewide wireless broadband network. The membership  
2 11 of the interim study committee shall include four  
2 12 members of the Senate and four members of the House of  
2 13 Representatives. In conducting the study, members  
2 14 shall consult with representatives from the Governor's  
2 15 office, the department of administrative services, and  
2 16 the department of education, and shall engage  
2 17 consultants and counsel with expertise in issues  
2 18 relating to the creation and operation of large  
2 19 wireless broadband networks to advise and assist the  
2 20 committee in the evaluation of information and data.  
2 21 In conducting its deliberations, the committee shall  
2 22 consider the following:  
2 23 1. Timeframes and processes for implementation of  
2 24 a statewide wireless broadband network.  
2 25 2. Evaluation of the state's broadband and  
2 26 wireless communications infrastructure including but  
2 27 not limited to federal communications commission  
2 28 licenses and wireless towers and antennas, and methods  
2 29 for leveraging this infrastructure in a statewide  
2 30 wireless broadband network.  
3 1 3. Assessment of the availability of and need for  
3 2 advanced communications services in unserved or  
3 3 underserved areas within the state.  
3 4 4. Identification of federal and other funding  
3 5 sources for broadband or wireless deployment or  
3 6 education.  
3 7 5. Establishment of public awareness and  
3 8 educational programs to encourage use of broadband  
3 9 services.  
3 10 The study committee shall report its findings and  
3 11 recommendations to the General Assembly for  
3 12 consideration during the 2010 Legislative Session.

3 13 LSB 2544YH 83  
3 14 rn/nh/5.1